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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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1. The USSR is using Czechoslovakia to put various pressures on India. After long hesitation and the strong intervention of Ambassador Bogomoloy in Prague, instructions were sent to Dr. Antonin Durdil, Czechoslovak Ambassador to New Delhi to sign a commercial treaty extremely favorable to India and disadvantageous to Czechoslovakia. The treaty insures the delivery to India of a large quantity of diesel engine, much desired by China.
2. On 19 Nov 53, the Chinese General Wo Chin-leh, chairman of the Chinese Military Mission to Czechoslovakia, who was supervising the production of machines at the V. I. Lenin factory, suddenly left for China in protest against the priority given to deliveries for India over those for China. The instructions for priority to India were given confidentially by Karel Polacek, Minister of Machinery, who visited the factory on 7 Nov 53 in company with P. G. Krekotan, First Counselor of the Soviet Embassy.
3. On 23 Nov 53, Dr. J. M. Plojhar, Czechoslovak Minister of Health, cancelled, at the last minute, the agreement with the Chinese Government for the dispatch of a Czechoslovak medical expedition to Tibet. This cancellation was brought about by directives from Moscow, transmitted to Dr. Plojhar by A. M. Meskov.
4. The Czechoslovak position in the struggle between the USSR and China for influence in India is one of neutrality, although Czechoslovak economists are generally in favor of closer commercial relations with China and opposed to those with India.
5. Dr. Durdil reports from New Delhi that strong Soviet pressure is being placed on India with a view to forcing Nehru to abandon his plan to get China into the UN and instead to join the Asiatic bloc being set up by Mao Tse-tung. The Soviets intend to get China into the UN at its own time and in its own way.

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